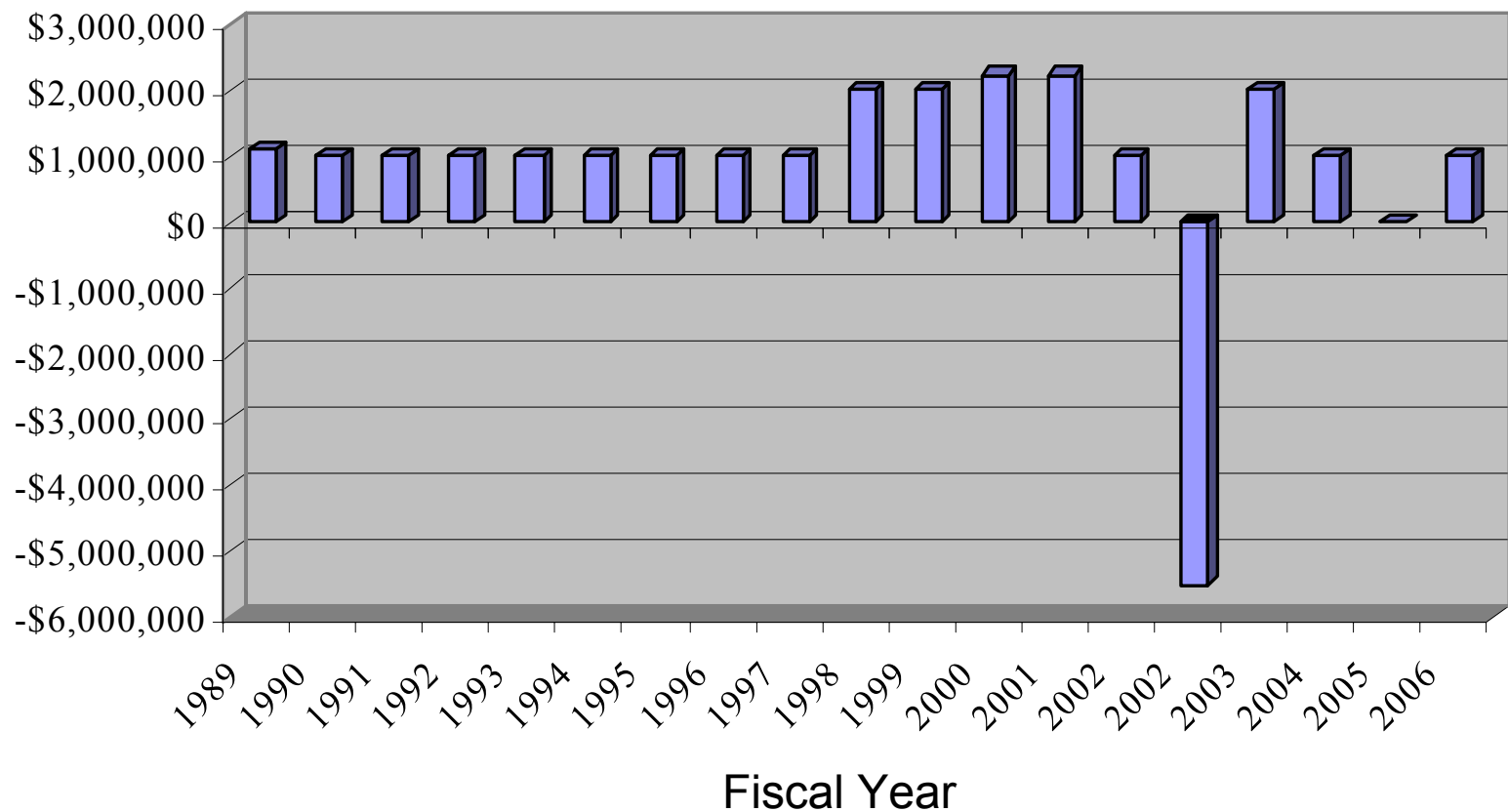

State Recreational Trails Program

Stuart Anderson, Director
Office of Systems Planning
Iowa Department of Transportation

History

- Created in 1988
- Purpose: Establish recreational trails in Iowa for the use, enjoyment and participation of the public
- Available to cities, counties, state agencies or non-profit organizations through an application program
- Administered by Department of Transportation

State Recreational Trails Appropriations (FY 1989 to FY 2006)



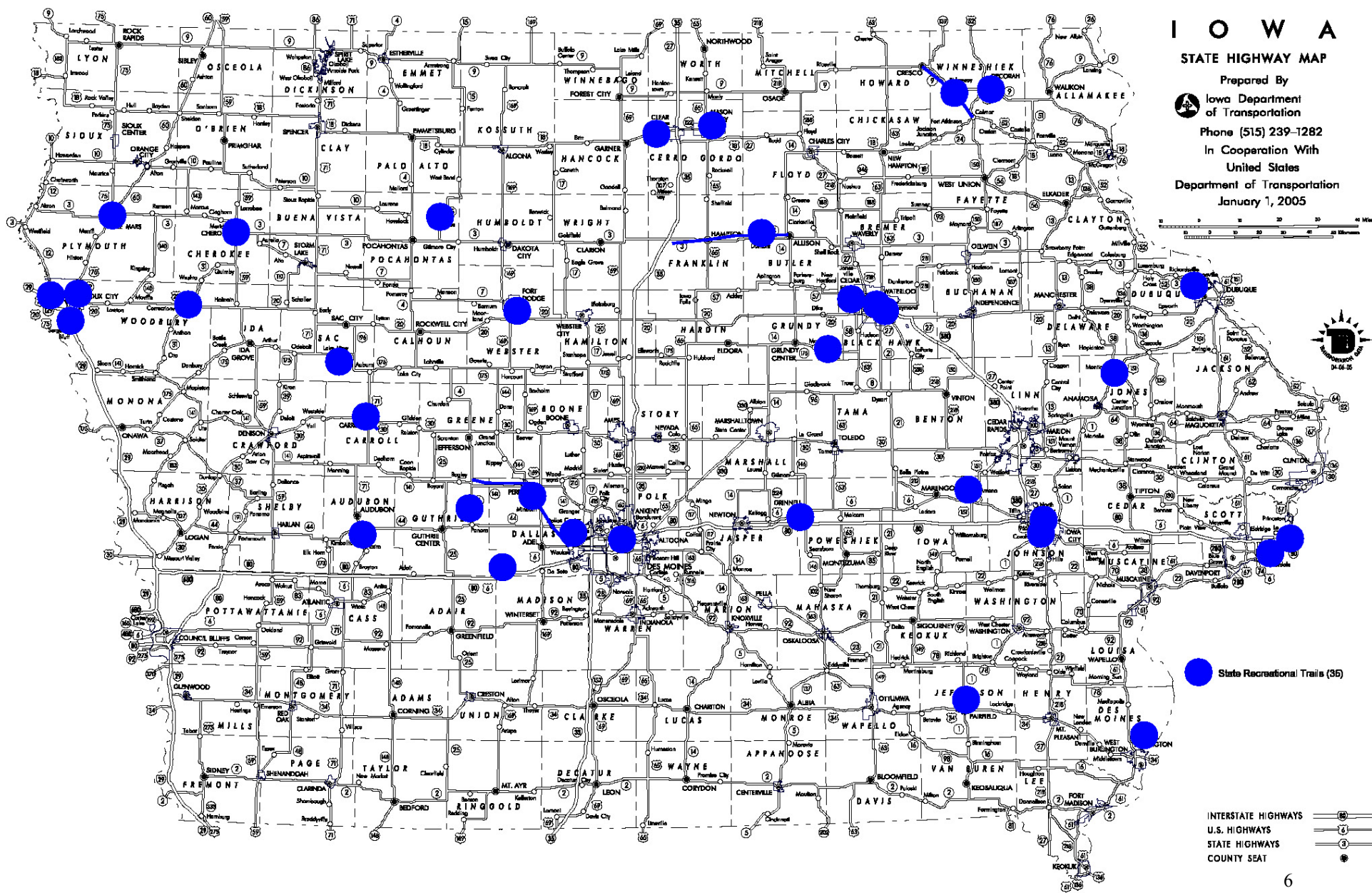
Current Status of Fund

- Deappropriation of \$5.5 million in 2002
 - ❑ All but \$450,000 had been obligated
 - ❑ FY 2003 appropriation: \$2.0 million
 - ❑ FY 2004 appropriation: \$1.0 million
 - ❑ FY 2005 appropriation: \$0
 - ❑ Resulting Shortfall: \$2.05 million
- FY 06 Appropriation: \$1.0 million
 - ❑ \$300,000 allocated to shortfall
 - ❑ \$700,000 to new projects
 - ❑ Remaining shortfall (after project underruns): \$1.5 million

FY 2006 Round of Applications

- 35 applications
- Requested Funding: \$11.7 million
- Available Funding: \$700,000

FY 06 State Recreational Trail Applications



Trail Needs

- \$7 million per year to develop a network of five statewide trails (not including regional and local trail needs)
 - ❑ Mississippi River Trail
 - ❑ Lewis & Clark Trail
 - ❑ American Discovery Trail
 - ❑ Central Iowa Trail Loop
 - ❑ Iowa Great Lakes Connection
- Iowa Great Places
 - ❑ 41 of the 72 Great Place applicants requested trail improvements
 - ❑ All three of the Great Place pilots requested trail improvements

Trail Benefits

- Every dollar spent on trails produces three dollars in economic benefits (Lincoln, NE study)
- Trail users spend on average \$4 to \$11 per day in local businesses (National Park Service Study of Heritage Trail in Dubuque County-1992)
- Each trail averages \$1.2 million to \$1.8 million in annual economic impact (National Park Service Study of Heritage Trail in Dubuque County-1992)



Trail Benefits (continued)

- Health and fitness
 - ❑ The percent of overweight children between ages 6 and 11 has more than doubled the last 30 years
(National statistics from the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
 - ❑ Costs Iowa \$1 billion annually for diseases related to sedentary lifestyles (Iowa Department of Public Health)



State Recreational Trails

- Governor's FY 2007 budget request: \$1 million
 - Reduce shortfall in funding
 - Fund new projects

